



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Confirmation No. 4034

Susumu KOBAYASHI et al.

: Attorney Docket No. 2001_1035A

Serial No. 09/910,853

: Group Art Unit 2151

Filed July 24, 2001

: Examiner Karen C. Tang

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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Initially, at the top of page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that the rejection presented under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as presented in the previous Office Action, is withdrawn.

Next, under the heading "Response to Arguments" on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that the Applicants' arguments filed in the response of November 9, 2006 that the Naick et al. document is not a valid prior art reference against the present application, are persuasive. As such, the rejections presented in the August 9, 2006 Office Action have been withdrawn.

Next, on pages 2-9 of the Office Action, claims 1-20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 39, 43, 47, 48, 50, 54 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Hanna (U.S. 7,054,905) and further in view of Pollack (U.S. 2002/0019851).